

Our Bible School

PRAYER MEETING TOPICS
CHARACTER STUDIES—SAMUEL

I. Biography.

- a. A child of promise. I Sam. 1: 11, 17.
- b. Consecrated to the Lord. I Sam. 1: 27, 28.
- c. Called by the Lord. I Sam. 3: 1-10.
- d. A prophet of the Lord. I Sam. 3: 19-21.
- e. Tells Israel the cause of their defeat. I Sam. 6: 3.
- f. Anoints Saul as Israel's first king. I Sam. 10: 1.
- g. Rebukes Saul for his sins. I Sam. 13: 11-14; I Sam. 15: 3, 8, 9, 17-23.
- h. Anoints David in Saul's stead. I Sam. 16: 13.
- i. Samuel's death and funeral. I Sam. 25: 1.

II. Life Lessons.

- a. Samuel was well born—he was an answer to prayer.
- b. God wants obedience rather than loud profession and talk.
- c. A true prophet will have the courage to tell men their sins.
- d. A nation is sad when a good man dies.

SERMONS IN QUAIN TEXTS

BY THE EDITOR

Text: In the morning, rising up a great while before day. Mark 1: 35.

Christ was a very busy man. He was never idle. After a day of hard toil, instead of sleeping the next morning he rose up early that he might be about his Father's business. Usually, when people work late on Saturday night they sleep long on Sabbath morning and do not find time to attend services at the sanctuary. They are too late for Sabbath school and it puzzles them to get to church in time for preaching service. They are not following the Master. Jesus rose early in the morning after a day of busy preaching and working miracles, that he might retire to some solitary place for secret devotions. Usually people do not have time for such services now; they are too busy. They excuse themselves from secret devotions because they have so much to do. No man was ever more busy than the Lord Jesus; no man ever yet had so great a work to do in so short a time, yet even Jesus could find time for secret devotions. If people would take a little more time for such devotion they could accomplish a great deal more in a life time. In the morning they are driven to their work without a word of prayer or talk with God. In the evening when the day's work is done, there are too many engagements,—calls, amusements, lodges, societies and parties, or if not they are too tired after the work of the day. Unless we can find time for prayer, holding communion with God, we can not expect God to find time to bless us in our work.

Let us not sleep away the precious hours of life.

Text: It was noised that he was in the house. Mark 2: 1.

Jesus had been away for some time doing wonderful work for God. He probably returned quietly so that there would be no great excitement. This he could not do. He did not try to make a public display. It was soon noised abroad that he was in the house, and that is always the case. When Jesus is taken into our homes the world will soon know about it. We can not keep it a secret. If the community in which we live does not know that Jesus is in our home, the reason is likely to be because he is not there. So too it is when Jesus gets into our hearts. We need not go about telling people that we have taken Jesus into our hearts. They will find it out if he is there. We show it in our speech, in our conduct, in our character, in all that we do. When Jesus gets into a boy's heart he becomes gentle, unselfish, diligent and faithful. It brings new principles into his heart and these rule in his life. If he used profane language, he will use it no more. Instead of profanity, his lips speak the praises of God. Jesus in the heart of a girl makes her kind, thoughtful and unselfish. We may hide flowers in a room, but their sweet fragrance will reveal their presence. We can not see Jesus, but his grace sweetens all the atmosphere about those in whose hearts he dwells. Does the world know that Jesus is in your heart and home? If not then you may well take warning for the probability is that you have been deceived and are yet without Christ and without hope. When Jesus takes full possession of man's heart, home and life, it will soon be "noised abroad."

Text: The Lord hath need of him. Mark 11: 3.

This is what the disciples were to say to the man who would object taking the colt for which Jesus sent. What need has the Lord of a colt? Is there really anything that he needs? Is not he Lord of lords, and King of kings? Is not the world his and they that dwell therein? Yes, but still he has need of the very humblest possessions of man, all of which may be used to his honor and glory. The things we have are not ours, they are only lent us, they are given for use as God may direct. This is true, not of our possessions only, but of life itself. We are not our own, we have been bought with a price, the Lord owns us, and at his call we should be ready to give up all for him, life included. The Lord can make use of our humblest possessions. In this case it was a colt that was pressed into the service of the Master. Whatever our possessions may be, let them be consecrated to the Lord and he will find use for them.

"It is not the deed we do,
Tho the deed be never so fair,
But the love that the dear Lord looketh for,
Hidden with holy care
In the heart of the deed so fair."

The Mission Field

MISSIONARY READING CIRCLE

COURSE OF READING

First Year	Cloth	Paper
1. Crisis of Missions—(Pierson.)	\$1 06	29
2. Armenian Amphitheater.		09
3. Do Not Say.		09
4. Our Country.	51	25
5. Life of Sammy Morris.		10
6. Choice Extracts—(Meyer.)		05
		87

The books, together with other literature, such as circulars giving full particulars how and why to organize and read, description of books, etc., can be had by addressing Rev. C. F. Yoder, Warsaw, Ind. Circles should be organized in every congregation.

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Each member of the Board is the Secretary for the District which he represents and is supposed to look after the interests of the mission work in his territory. All pledges and money should be sent to the general Secretary, J. C. Cassel, 709 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

THE DAYTON MISSION

Tho the mission work began in Dayton, Ohio, a year ago, it has received but little attention from the general church. It is nevertheless not only still alive, but is steadily making progress. For a year we have been asking the Mission Board to put some one over the work. Two or three times we began to rejoice because we all thought that our long hoped for and prayed for object was gained; but thro failure somewhere the "new man" failed to come each time, and we are now as far from the attainment of our object apparently as ever. We have not given up hope, however, for we know that if the church and the Mission Board could know what magnificent opportunities for doing effective work, for promoting the growth of the Brethren Church, are presented here, this promising field would no longer be neglected. The support given the Chicago mission is far from munificent and we could all wish that more money were given Brother McFaden and Brother Lyon for making more successful the good work in Chicago and Washington, but when we read the last report of the Mission Board and do not even find the name of the Dayton mission we wonder if the church has forgotten us. Our plea is not for less money to Chicago and Washington, but more for Dayton. I wish to present in as few words as possible the condition of affairs here—to tell what has been done, what is doing and what remains to be done, with the hope that the general church will come to our help. I need hardly tell again how the work started; how Brother Kiehl consented to give the work over into the hands of the Mission Board, and how the Board failed to secure a man for the work; this has already been